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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): K. Morikawa et al.

Attorney Docket No: 7620-X06-005

Application No.: National Stage Filing of
PCT/JP2004/012079

Confirmation No.:

Filed: Herewith

Group Art Unit:

For: IMMERSION NOZZLE FOR CONTINUOUS
CASTING OF STEEL AND CONTINUOUS
STEEL CASTING METHOD USING SAME

Examiner:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Before action, please amend the above-identified application as follows. In accordance with USPTO practice, each section of this Preliminary Amendment begins on a separate sheet.

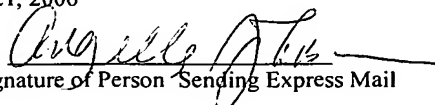
CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.10 that the attached paper(s) or fee(s) is/are being deposited with the United States Postal Services "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" to Mail Stop Amendment

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

On February 21, 2006

Angella Johnson
Name of Person Sending Express Mail


Signature of Person Sending Express Mail